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# Establishing Lady Fenn's Canon

David Stoker

## Introduction

Towards the end of 1997, the writer of this article was commissioned by the editors of the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (ODNB)* to contribute the entry for Sir John Fenn (1739-94), the English antiquary and first editor of the "Paston Letters". Within the 800 words allocated, he was asked to include brief reference to Sir John's wife who wrote children's books. Having some prior knowledge of the life and work of Sir John, he accepted the commission, although conscious that he would be reliant on reference works for details about his wife. In fact, the original *Dictionary of National Biography* entry seemed to contain sufficient information about Fenn's wife to satisfy the requirements of the new commission.

He married, 1 Jan. 1766, Eleanor, daughter of Sheppard Frere, esq., of Roydon, Suffolk. Lady Fenn shared the high motives and literary zeal of her husband. Under the names of Mrs. Lovechild and Mrs. Teachwell she wrote various works of an educational kind for the young, of which the following may be named: the 'Child's Grammar,' 'Short Grammar,' the 'Family Miscellany,' 'Cobwebs to Catch Flies,' and 'Short History of Insects.' She died 1 Nov. 1813.<sup>1</sup>

In the 120 years since these words were written, the academic study of early children's literature has become established and many new bibliographies and works of reference published, so there was clearly a need to check these facts before proceeding.

Several of Lady Fenn's works were discussed in the standard histories of children's literature published during the twentieth century although she was not particularly well regarded – often accused of being over moralistic or oppressively disciplinarian.<sup>2</sup> Yet it would also later become clear that 1997 marked the beginnings of a re-evaluation of her work by a new generation of scholars and the recognition of her as an unrecognised pioneer in the field of the education of young children.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> William Bayne. "Fenn, Sir John (1739–1794)," *Dictionary of National Biography*, archive, and see also David Stoker, "Fenn, Sir John (1739–1794), in *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, ed. H. C. G. Matthew and Brian Harrison (Oxford: OUP, 2004), <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/9283> (accessed April 2, 2008).

<sup>2</sup> See David Stoker, "Lady Ellenor Fenn as 'Mrs Teachwell' and 'Mrs Lovechild': a pioneer late eighteenth-century children's writer, educator and philanthropist", *The Princeton University Library Chronicle* 68, no. 3 (2007); 816-850, p.850, for some twentieth century criticisms of Lady Fenn's works.

<sup>3</sup> Recent, more sympathetic studies of her work include Andrea Immel, "'Mistress of Infantine Language': Lady Ellenor Fenn, Her Set of Toys, and the Education of Each Moment", *Children's Literature*, 25 (1997); 215-228, Carol Percy "Disciplining women? Grammar, gender, and leisure in the works of Ellenor Fenn (1743-1813)."

In addition to those of her works listed by the *DNB*, other titles were identified from brief entries in various 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century reference works and library catalogs.<sup>4</sup> Unusually for a female children's writer, she warranted a substantial obituary in the *Gentleman's magazine*, which listed further titles.<sup>5</sup> The first systematic attempt at listing her works appeared in 1971 in the second volume of the *New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature*, in the section on children's books compiled by Peter Opie.<sup>6</sup> This recorded 28 titles published between 1783 and 1805, all but three of which were the works of "Mrs Teachwell".<sup>7</sup>

Two years later Sydney Roscoe listed a further fourteen publications by "Mrs Lovechild" published by Elizabeth Newbery appearing after 1797, in his bibliography *John Newbery and his successors*.<sup>8</sup> However, in doing so, he voiced doubts whether their attribution to Lady Fenn were correct, noting an assertion by the late Alfred Wallis, that Lady Fenn "did not pose as Mrs Lovechild but preferred to rank with the opposite sex, as 'Solomon Lovechild'".<sup>9</sup> Roscoe eventually concluded that, "at present there seems no convincing evidence one way or the other", although "the identity of Lady Fenn with 'Mrs Teachwell' seems reasonably well established".<sup>10</sup> He further complicated matters by adopting the spelling "Ellenor" for her Christian name whereas virtually all other sources (other than the entry for the Frere family in *Burke's Landed Gentry*), had used the more common English spelling of "Eleanor".

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*Historiographia Linguistica*, 33 no. 1 (2006); 109-137, Karen Cajka, 'The forgotten women grammarians of eighteenth-century England (Ireland)', University of Connecticut, PhD thesis, 2003, chapter 4, and Karlijn Navest, "'Borrowing a few passages': Lady Ellenor Fenn and her use of sources," in *Grammars, grammarians, and grammar writing in eighteenth century England*, ed. Ingrid Tieken-Boon van Ostade, (Berlin/New York: Moutan de Gruyter, forthcoming).

<sup>4</sup> For example, Samuel Austin Allibone, *A critical dictionary of English literature and British and American authors* ... 3 vols. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott, 1858-1872), or Charles Welsh, *A Bookseller of the Last Century, being some account of the life of John Newbery, and of the books he published, with a notice of the later Newberys*. (London : Griffith, Farran and Co., 1885).

<sup>5</sup> *The Gentleman's Magazine*, 88 part. ii (1813); 508.

<sup>6</sup> *The New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature*, ed. by G. Watson (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1971), II. 1024-5. The volume concerned only covered the period until 1800, whereas Lady Fenn was publishing until 1813, and so represents only about half of her publications.

<sup>7</sup> Lady Fenn did not warrant an entry in the third volume of the *New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature* (covering the nineteenth century) even under the minor writers, but is included in *The Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature 3: Volume 4, 1800-1900* edited by Joanne Shattock (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000).

<sup>8</sup> Sydney Roscoe, *John Newbery and his successors, 1740-1814*, (Wormley: Five Owls Press, 1973).

<sup>9</sup> Roscoe, p. 108. I have been unable to identify the source of the quotation by Wallis. However, an attribution of the works of both "Mrs Lovechild" and "Solomon Lovechild" to Lady Fenn was made by Dora De Blaquiére, "Women's 'Noms de plume'", *The Girl's own paper*, 553, 2 August 1890, 693.

<sup>10</sup> Roscoe was clearly unaware of Lady Fenn's obituary in the *Gentleman's Magazine* which confirmed her use of both pseudonyms.

Marjorie Moon's bibliography of the publications of Elizabeth Newbery's successor, *John Harris's books for youth, 1801-1843*, was published in 1976 and identified yet further titles together with several games and teaching schemes, all written or compiled by "Mrs Lovechild" during the early years of the nineteenth century. Several of these titles are known only from contemporary advertisements.<sup>11</sup> Moon presented convincing evidence associating Lady Fenn with both her pseudonyms, in the form of an advertisement from 1816, but she reverted to the usual spelling of Lady Fenn's Christian name.

Lawrence Darton's bibliography of the output of his family firm appeared in 2005 which identifies yet more titles, by "Mrs Lovechild", (some of them published after her death).<sup>12</sup> This bibliography shows that after 1800 Lady Fenn was publishing works under the name of "Mrs Lovechild" for two publishers simultaneously, whilst her original publisher, John Marshall, continued to produce many more editions of the most popular works of "Mrs Teachwell". It is also noteworthy that Darton, who had access to his family business records, followed Roscoe in using the spelling "Ellenor".

Neither Marjorie Moon nor Lawrence Darton made reference to the issue previously raised by Roscoe about the possible attribution of works by "Solomon Lovechild" to Lady Fenn, but in 1983 Eric Quayle stated that Lady Fenn "wrote most of her books for children under a bewildering set of pseudonyms: 'Solomon Lovechild', 'Mrs Teachwell' and 'Mrs Lovechild' are some which can be associated with her with certainty".<sup>13</sup> Thereafter the addition of "Solomon Lovechild" to the list of accepted pseudonyms seems to have become well established appearing in her entries in *The Oxford companion to children's literature, A dictionary of British and American women writers 1660-1800*, and more recently in third edition of *The Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature* and *The Cambridge guide to children's books in English*.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Marjorie Moon, *John Harris's books for youth, 1801-1843: being a check-list of books for children and young people published for their amusement and instruction by John Harris and his son, successors to Elizabeth Newbery, including a list of games and teaching toys*, (Cambridge: M. Moon ; sold by A. Spilman, [1976]).

<sup>12</sup> Lawrence Darton, *The Dartons: an Annotated Check-list of Children's Books, Games and Educational Aids Issued by Two Publishing Houses 1787-1870*, (London: British Library Publishing, 2005).


<sup>13</sup> Eric Quayle, *Early children's books: a collectors guide*, (Newton Abbot: David & Charles ; Totowa, N.J. : Barnes & Noble Books, 1983), 55.

<sup>14</sup> *The Oxford companion to children's literature*, ed. Humphrey Carpenter and Mari Prichard, (Oxford : Oxford University Press, 1984), *A dictionary of British and American women writers 1660-1800*, ed. Janet Todd, (London : Methuen, 1984), *The Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature*, volume 3 (Cambridge: C.U.P., 2000) and *The Cambridge guide to children's books in English*, ed. Victor Watson, (Cambridge: C.U.P., 2001).

The usual source of reference for resolving problems regarding the form and spelling of names and use of pseudonyms is the Library of Congress (LC) *Name Authority* file, which is used in the catalogs of a large number of the research libraries in the western world. At the time that it was first consulted (late in 1997), it recommended that entries for Lady Fenn's works should be cataloged under "Mrs Lovechild (1743-1813)" with cross references from "Fenn, Eleanor Frere, Lady", "Fenn, Eleanor, Lady", and "Teachwell, Mrs.", and also from two further pseudonyms - "Nurse Lovechild" and "Dame Teachwell", but no cross-reference from "Solomon Lovechild".<sup>15</sup>

A subsequent search of various library catalogs and databases for further publications showed that the bibliographical record for Lady Fenn was in utter chaos. For example, the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) *Worldcat* database contained 325 entries (representing 73 separate titles) cataloged under the LC authorised form of "Mrs Lovechild", 33 entries (12 titles) under "Mrs Teachwell", 22 entries (15 titles) under "Eleanor Fenn", and six entries (five titles) under "Ellenor Fenn".<sup>16</sup> Yet more entries and attributed titles could be located on this database by conducting a keyword search for the phrase "Lady Fenn" appearing on the title page. In compliance with the LC recommendation, the works of "Nurse Lovechild" and "Dame Teachwell" were cataloged under "Mrs Lovechild", but so too were works with other pseudonyms, such as "Louisa Lovechild", "Miss Lovechild", "Mr Lovechild", "Lawrence Lovechild" and "Solomon Lovechild". A similar spread of entries reflecting different library cataloguing practices can be found on the United Kingdom *Copac Academic & National Library Catalogue* database.<sup>17</sup> Between them, the research libraries represented in these two databases attribute more than one hundred and twenty different titles to Lady Fenn, apparently writing in the guise of six different "Lovechilds" and two "Teachwells". A subsequent search of *Google* also found publications by 'Lucy Lovechild' and 'Timothy Teachwell', both of which were identified as having been written by Lady Fenn. Based on the information contained in the catalogs of U.S. and U.K. libraries, it is not surprising that Eric Quayle should have referred to "a bewildering set of pseudonyms".<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> *Library of Congress Authorities*, <http://authorities.loc.gov/>, LC Control Number: n 50002571, accessed  2 Nov 1997]. Following the publication of the Darton bibliography, a further cross reference has been added from the 'Ellenor' form of spelling.

<sup>16</sup> Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) *WorldCat*, <http://www.oclc.org/firstsearch/content/worldcat/>

<sup>17</sup> *Copac Academic & National Library Catalogue*, <http://www.copac.ac.uk/>

<sup>18</sup> The bibliographical confusion has been continued, and indeed been compounded, in the twenty-first century. The Kessinger press have recently (2007-8) published a series of photographic facsimiles of works which are identified on their covers as having been written 'by Mrs Lovechild', including those originally published anonymously, or

The literature search for Lady Fenn's works highlighted some remarkable facts about this author in terms of the popularity of her works during the first half of the nineteenth century. For example, a statement on the title page of 34<sup>th</sup> edition of *The Child's Grammar* (1830) claimed that the work had already sold more than 200,000 copies.<sup>19</sup> This title continued to be reprinted at regular intervals and reached a fiftieth edition by the about 1870. The sequel to this work, *The Mother's Grammar*, had reached twenty-two editions in 1849. Similarly, "Mrs Teachwell's" famous reading primer, *Cobwebs to Catch Flies*, was in print more or less continuously between 1783 and 1894 with innumerable unnumbered editions ultimately produced by sixteen different publishers, operating in six cities in England, Ireland and the U.S.A.<sup>20</sup>

It was at this point that the writer informed the editors of the *ODNB* of his findings, suggesting that the life of Lady Fenn warranted more than a few sentences in her husband's biography. They agreed and undertook to find a contributor with some more expertise in the field. Thereafter he did no further work on this topic until the summer of 2001, when he unexpectedly received a commission to write the new entry that he had previously recommended. The dictionary was then approaching the end of its editorial phase and so he was permitted only three months in which to compile the new biography.

In the limited time available it was not difficult to ascertain that Lady Fenn's Christian name was indeed "Ellenor" and that the spelling "Eleanor" was never used by her or her family during her lifetime,<sup>21</sup> that she was born at Westhorpe, Suffolk on 12 March 1744 (not in London during 1743 as stated in some sources). However, since copies of her works were scattered throughout libraries in the British Isles and North America, there was no opportunity to unravel the bibliographical complexities associated with her various pseudonyms, prior to publication of the new entry.<sup>22</sup> This has been an ongoing task and the remainder of the article will present some preliminary conclusions.

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under the pseudonyms of 'Mrs Teachwell', and 'Solomon Lovechild', whilst at the same time publishing another which is identified on its cover as written 'by Mrs Teachwell'.

<sup>19</sup> Ellenor Fenn, *The Child's Grammar*, 34th ed. (London: John Harris, 1830).

<sup>20</sup> See David Stoker, *Cobwebs to catch flies: a bibliographical case study*, (Children's Books history Society – occasional paper VII) – forthcoming.

<sup>21</sup> The spelling "Ellenor" appears in Sir John Fenn's manuscript autobiography (Norfolk Record Office, (N.R.O.) NNAS 5050/4/13 'Memoirs of the Life of John Fenn Esqr. M.A. F.A.S. &c.'), on a number of surviving letters written by her (N.R.O. NNAS C3/2/4), and also on her will, (National Archives, Prerogative Court of Canterbury Will Registers PROB 11/1550 ).

<sup>22</sup> David Stoker, "Fenn, Ellenor, Lady Fenn (1744–1813)." In *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, edited by H. C. G. Matthew and Brian Harrison. Oxford: OUP, 2004. Online edition, ed. Lawrence Goldman, May 2005.

## Lady Fenn's publications

On the basis of an examination of several hundreds of copies of her works, and those attributed to her,<sup>23</sup> the author believes that Ellenor Fenn was responsible for writing or compiling in the region of fifty book titles and eleven educational games and teaching schemes, although by no means all of these have survived.<sup>24</sup> The uncertainty over the exact numbers is due to several factors. In a few cases two titles were produced as one volume but also appear to have been sold separately, some of the surviving titles may have been component parts of her teaching schemes rather than discrete publications, and some new works were created posthumously by her publishers out of her previous publications, but given new titles. Her output included many books intended for young children to read by themselves or with their parents, including two volumes of fables (designed for different age groups), reading primers, a didactic fairy story, simple religious works, several works relating to natural history and others concerned with instilling good manners in children. In addition, she wrote several titles aimed at parents or governesses (but most specifically at mothers) to enable them to provide an elementary education to their charges. This latter group included books describing teaching techniques or advice on child rearing, together with the basic tools for teaching such as spelling books, books of grammar, or parsing lessons. Several of her books were compilations or anthologies of the work of others although the majority were her own work.<sup>25</sup>

### *Mrs Teachwell (1783-1790)*

There is no question that Mrs Fenn (as she was until her husband's knighthood in November 1787) wrote under the guise of "Mrs Teachwell", since there are references both in her surviving correspondence and also in a book dedicated to her which associates her with this pseudonym.<sup>26</sup>

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<http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/9279> (accessed April 2, 2008). Subsequent research has shown that one of the titles mentioned in this article (*Mrs. Lovechild's golden present*) was not written by her.

<sup>23</sup> The author would like to thank the following organisations for providing travel grants or fellowships in connection with this and related researches into the life and writings of Lady Fenn: UCLA (Mizzi Myers Memorial Fellowship), the Bibliographical Society, the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Princeton University (Cotsen Fellowship), and the Bibliographical Society of America. I am also grateful to Brian Alderson for his comments on a draft version of this paper.

<sup>24</sup> A check-list of Lady Fenn's publications is given in an appendix to this article.

<sup>25</sup> In common with other contemporary educational writers for children, Ellenor frequently uses passages or phrases from other writers and does not always identify her sources. See Karlijn Navest, "'Borrowing a few passages': Lady Ellenor Fenn and her use of sources", *Grammars, grammarians, and grammar writing in eighteenth-century England*, ed. Ingrid Tiekens-Boon van Ostade (Berlin/New York: Mouton de Gruyter), in the press.

<sup>26</sup> For example, a letter to her husband 19th March 1791 (NRO Colman MS COL 8/104/36), or the dedication to her in Henry St. John Bullen, *Elements of geography, expressly designed for the use of schools*. (London: 1799).

“Mrs Teachwell” was the name of the governess in her first published work, *School occurrences*, (February 1783) and presumably originated from the “Mrs Teachum” in Sarah Fielding’s *The governess*, (1749). *Fables by Mrs Teachwell*, (published in July 1783) was one of relatively few works to carry the pseudonym in a statement of authorship on the title page.<sup>27</sup> Thereafter her publisher, John Marshall, identified and marketed her growing output in “catalogues of Mrs Teachwell’s books” appended to his publications. “Mrs Teachwell” was also responsible for the compilation of an elaborate and expensive teaching scheme for reading, spelling and arithmetic, entitled *A set of toys*, which was published by Marshall together with her handbook explaining its use entitled *The art of teaching in sport* (1785).<sup>28</sup>

Ellenor Fenn continued to publish new titles at regular intervals until 1789 or 1790, but then began a period during which she appears to have largely given up writing for children. John Marshall therefore published *A complete catalogue of ‘Mrs Teachwell’s’ books*, about 1790, listing sixteen titles, which were all still in print, and which seem to provide a definitive list of her output under this name. According to her obituary in the *Gentleman’s Magazine*, she had handed over the copyrights of these valuable titles to her publisher in return for a number of bound copies of each work for distribution to her friends.<sup>29</sup> Thus John Marshall was able to continue to print new editions of the most successful of these works long after Lady Fenn had ceased writing under this name or having any further dealings with him.

### ***Mrs Lovechild (1795-1813)***

The circumstances which led Lady Fenn to re-invent herself with a new pseudonym towards the end of the eighteenth century, and split with her publisher, John Marshall, are discussed elsewhere.<sup>30</sup> There is ample contemporary evidence to show that during her last eighteen years of life, she abandoned “Mrs Teachwell” and regularly published her new works either anonymously or else under the pseudonym of “Mrs Lovechild”.<sup>31</sup> The first title to include this name, *The*

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<sup>27</sup> For more details of “Mrs Teachwell’s” publications see Stoker, “Ellenor Fenn as ‘Mrs Teachwell’ and ‘Mrs Lovechild’”, pp.821-836..

<sup>28</sup> *The art of teaching in sport, designed as a prelude to a Set of Toys*, (London: John Marshall & Co. 1785). The *Set of Toys* in the Cotsen Library, Princeton was described and illustrated by Andrea Immel in “Mistress of Infantine Language” and by Jill Shefrin in “‘Make it a pleasure not a task’: Educational games for children in Georgian England”, *Princeton University Library Chronicle*, 60 (1999) 251-275, pp. 264-5. Another example was auctioned at Christie’s in London in June 2006, Jim McCue ‘Learning through play the Georgian way’ *The Times* 5 June 2006.

<sup>29</sup> *The Gentleman’s Magazine*, 88 (1813), pt. ii 508.

<sup>30</sup> Stoker, ‘Ellenor Fenn as “Mrs Teachwell” and “Mrs Lovechild”’ pp.837-842.

<sup>31</sup> This evidence includes the dedication in Bullen’s *Elements of geography*, her obituary in the *Gentleman’s Magazine*, and many contemporary advertisements, all of which identify her as “Mrs Lovechild”.



*village matron* was published in Norwich in 1795.<sup>32</sup> However, after 1797, she began a second period of great productivity with London publishers, this time using John Marshall's main competitor, the firm of Elizabeth Newbery (who was succeeded by John Harris in 1801). Among her new publications were a number of cheap text books or for use by parents or those running Sunday schools, issued in monograph series such as "Mrs. Lovechild's Attempt to make the Road to Knowledge Plain and Easy", or "Mrs Lovechild's Series of Grammatical Knowledge". These included a new spelling book, reading lessons, parsing lessons, and elementary English grammars, together with anthologies and compilations for use in Sunday schools.<sup>33</sup>

Several of these new works had similar titles, or served similar functions, to existing works by "Mrs Teachwell"—for example, *A spelling book, with easy reading lessons*, "by the author of the child's and mother's grammars" and published by John Harris in 1805 competed with *A spelling book, By Mrs. Teachwell*, published by Marshall, and his successors between 1787 and 1822. Lady Fenn also set out her objectives and described her plans for new publications and teaching materials in *The friend of mothers* (1799), by "Mrs Lovechild",<sup>34</sup> which served a similar function to "Mrs Teachwell's" *The art of teaching in sport* (1785).

Her latest teaching techniques required the use of small relief illustrations of everyday items which mothers could discuss with their children during lessons or offer as rewards. These were similar to the sheets of printed lottery tickets, which were commonly available. Lady Fenn's illustrations were either sold separately in a box, (which she referred to as "Douceurs"). or else in a volume of cuts entitled, *Mrs. Lovechild's book of three hundred and thirty-six cuts for children*.<sup>35</sup> These were sold with a two volume work entitled: *The mother's remarks on a set of cuts for children*. In order to execute this plan Lady Fenn needed to recruit a second publisher – the firm of Darton & Harvey - who could produce the illustrations cheaply. Thus during the first decade of the nineteenth century Lady Fenn was using two new publishers who several times collaborated on further publications by "Mrs Lovechild".

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<sup>32</sup> *The village matron: or anecdotes of Mrs Lovechild*, (Norwich: R. Bacon, 1795). Lady Ellenor had previously used 'Lady Lovechild' as a character in *Cobwebs to catch flies*.

<sup>33</sup> For example, *The infant's friend*, parts I.& II (a spelling book and reading lessons), *Parsing lessons for young children*, and *Parsing lessons for elder pupils*, (London: printed for E. Newbery, 1797-8).

<sup>34</sup> *The friend of mothers: designed to assist them in their attempts to instil the rudiments of language and arithmetic*, (London: E. Newbery, 1799).

<sup>35</sup> *Mrs. Lovechild's book of three hundred and thirty-six cuts for children*, (London: Darton and Harvey, 1800), and various editions thereafter. They were printed on one side of the paper only and without accompanying text. An abridged edition *Mrs. Lovechild's book of two hundred and sixteen cuts*, was published by Harvey and Darton in 1824.

Throughout her remaining years “Mrs Lovechild” continued a steady stream of new publications, but increasingly she also became interested in developing educational toys and games, later described by Richard Mackenzie Bacon as “numberless devices which spread the knowledge and the desire of making this ... capital addition to the art of teaching, extensively useful”.<sup>36</sup> At least ten further games and teaching schemes by “Mrs Lovechild”, with names such as “A secret worth knowing”, “Sportive exercises in grammar” or “Friendly whispers for youth of both sexes” are known through advertisements but none of these appear to have survived.<sup>37</sup>

### ***Anonymous works (1783-1813)***

As previously mentioned, many of the books by “Mrs Teachwell” and “Mrs Lovechild” were in fact published anonymously and only later ascribed to her through their inclusion in advertisements. Thus the 18<sup>th</sup> century editions of *Cobwebs to catch flies* have no reference to “Mrs Teachwell” but the title was always included in the catalogs of Mrs Teachwell’s publications published by John Marshall. Similarly, the author statement on the title page of *The female guardian*, was “a Lady”, although there are references to a governess named “Mrs Teachwell” in the text, and the title was likewise included in her catalogs.

John Marshall also published two successful works of grammar, which were undoubtedly written by Ellenor Fenn, but were not included in his *Complete catalogue of Mrs Teachwell’s books*, possibly because they appeared later or for some reason were considered to be different from “Mrs Teachwell’s” works. The first of these was *The Child’s Grammar*<sup>38</sup>, which appeared about 1790, and was soon afterwards followed by a sequel - the *Mother’s Grammar*. Later editions of these two small works were published by Elizabeth Newbery and John Harris rather than John Marshall and were included in their series “Mrs. Lovechild’s attempts to make the road to knowledge plain and easy”. The early Harris editions were her only titles which are described on their title pages as having been published “for the author”. Lady Fenn may not have transferred the copyrights in these two cases. Editions after 1807 were however printed for John Harris. *The*

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<sup>36</sup> *The Quarterly Musical Magazine and Review*, ed. R. M. Bacon, (London: Baldwin Cradock & Joy, 1818), p.474.

<sup>37</sup> One of these is described by Charles Welsh in “A forgotten primer and its author”, *The Bibliographer*, (New York), I. (1902), 190-194.

<sup>38</sup> *The child’s grammar* was one of the titles to be found in the earliest of John Marshall’s ‘Miniature Libraries’ which came in wooden cases to resemble book shelves, and may have been written specifically for that purpose. However, it quickly became a successful title in its own right, warranting several editions by Marshall prior to 1801. See Brian Alderson, “Miniature libraries for the young”, *The Private Library*, Spring 1983, 3-38.

*Child's grammar* ultimately went through fifty editions before it ceased to be advertised by Harris's successors Griffith and Farran after 1872.

During her fallow years, after the demise of "Mrs Teachwell" and before the re-emergence of "Mrs Lovechild", Lady Fenn is known to have founded a Sunday School at her home town of East Dereham in Norfolk. A small anonymous publication, *Six lessons for youth*,<sup>39</sup> which was printed in East Dereham and clearly intended for this school, is almost certainly her work, and may be added to her list of publications with a fair degree of confidence. It was largely compiled from Bishop White Kennett's *The Christian scholar: in rules and directions for children and youth, sent to English schools*.<sup>40</sup>

"Mrs Lovechild" also published anonymous works intended for an adult audience. For examples, *Some hints to young women, engaged in rearing infants, or educating children*, was printed for Elizabeth Newbery in 1799 and largely consisted of extracts from the work of other authors, sometimes acknowledged, sometimes not so.<sup>41</sup>

### ***"The late Lady Fenn" (c.1814-c.1865)***

In 1814, shortly after Lady Fenn's death, John Harris was claiming that he sold 8-10,000 copies of *The Child's grammar* annually, as well as many hundreds of her other titles.<sup>42</sup> It is not surprising therefore that William Darton II was happy to publish two posthumous titles by "Mrs Lovechild". Thus, *The little vocabulary*, and its companion volume *Easy reading: adapted to the capacities of children* appeared in the same year.

For some years before her death the identity of "Mrs Lovechild" and "Mrs Teachwell" had been known to those working in the field, and reviewers would sometimes reveal her identity in print.<sup>43</sup> After the publication of her obituary in 1814, "the late Lady Fenn" achieved a short-lived

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<sup>39</sup> *Six lessons for youth, selected chiefly from the Christian Scholar*, (East Dereham: William Barker, 1795). 8vo,

<sup>40</sup> White Kennett, *The Christian scholar: in rules and directions for children and youth, sent to English schools. More especially designed for the poor boys, taught and cloathed by charity, in the parish of St. Botolph Aldgate*. (London: 1700), which was frequently reprinted throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>41</sup> *Some hints to young women, engaged in rearing infants, or educating children, either in private families, or schools*, London: printed for E. Newbery, 1799. The *Hints to young women who are engaged in education*, advertised by John Harris, in 1804, may have been a new edition of the same work.

<sup>42</sup> For examples, see the advertisement for this work appearing in *The happy sequel. or the history of Isabella Mordaunt*, (London: J. Harris 1814).

<sup>43</sup> See the review of *Some hints to young women, engaged in rearing infants, or educating children*, (London: E. Newbery, 1799) published in *The Young gentleman's & lady's magazine, or Universal repository of knowledge, instruction and amusement*, (London: [1799-1800]). vol. 2, pp.284-6.

posthumous reputation as an educational reformer, and there was no further need for her publishers to preserve her anonymity.

As the Lady who wrote these little works, (which were done purely with a view of informing the rising generation) is now gone to another and better world, to receive the reward of her labours, the Publisher [i.e. John Harris] cannot resist this opportunity of saying, that the feigned names of Mrs Lovechild and Mrs Teachwell, were united in Lady Fenn, of Dereham in Norfolk.<sup>44</sup>

Her publishers also began to add her name to hitherto anonymous works. For example, *Baby's Busy Hours; or, Morning Lessons* was published by Eleanor Marshall, (the widow of John Marshall) in the 1820s, using six of the *Fables in monosyllables*.<sup>45</sup> When Harvey and Darton decided to publish a new shorter edition of the relief cuts in 1824, it was described as *Mrs. Lovechild's book of two hundred and sixteen cuts*, but also “designed by the late Lady Fenn”. Similarly, Grant and Griffiths (the successors of John Harris) likewise saw no reason to preserve her anonymity on the continuing editions of *The child's grammar* and *The Mother's grammar* during the middle years of the nineteenth century and these two titles were advertised by as by “the late Lady Fenn under the guise of Mrs Lovechild”.

One other significant work by Lady Fenn was published posthumously by John Harris sometime during the 1820s, and was perhaps compiled from her unpublished writings. Lady Fenn had described herself as the “Mistress of the Infantine knowledge” in the dedication to *Cobwebs to catch flies*, and this phrase was used to provide the title of her final work. *Infantine knowledge ... by the author of the Child's Grammar* was advertised by Harris in 1826.<sup>46</sup> It was more than just “a spelling book on a popular plan” as originally described on its title page, which was amended to “combining much useful information with the rudiments of learning” on later editions. By the seventh edition c. 1848 (and possibly before) it was being attributed to the still well known, “Mrs Lovechild”. It had been through nine editions by 1863 but soon afterwards it ceased to appear in the publisher's advertisements.

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<sup>44</sup> Advertisement from Barbara Hofland, *The blind farmer*, (London: J. Harris, 1816). See Marjorie Moon, *John Harris' books for youth*, p.45

<sup>45</sup> *Baby's Busy Hours; or, Morning Lessons, to which are added six monosyllable fables by the late Lady Fenn*, (London: E. Marshall, c.1823).

<sup>46</sup> No copies of the first edition are known. It was advertised as *Infantine knowledge* in Barbara Hofland, *The young pilgrim, or, Alfred Campbell's return to the East*. (London: J. Harris, 1826), but this may have been a misprint. A second edition was enlarged and improved, by Thomas Smith, in 1828.

## False attributions

There were a number of works that have been attributed to Lady Fenn in nineteenth century publications which appear to be either bibliographical ghosts or misattributions. For example, there is no further trace of the *Short Grammar*, mentioned in the original *DNB* entry, which appears to be one of the many “ghosts” created by that work. Charles Welsh, the early biographer of John Newbery, attributed an *A short introduction to geography* to “Mrs Lovechild” on the basis of an undated advertisement by John Harris, but a later advertisement attributes the work to a “Mr. Newcombe of Hackney for the use of his seminary”.<sup>47</sup> Similarly, a John Marshall publication, *The footstep to Mrs. Trimmer's Sacred history*, was listed as Lady Fenn’s work in her obituary<sup>48</sup> but was never listed in his various catalogs of “Mrs Teachwell’s works”. It was a simplified version of Sarah Trimmer’s famous work, designed for young children, first published around 1785, and which continued to be published until the mid 1820s. The prefatory “Address to good children”, was signed “A.C.” and indicates that it was the work of a female author, but has not been otherwise been attributed to her (or indeed to anyone else) in contemporary newspaper advertisements, or by later commentators. In the absence of further evidence these three titles appear to be unlikely attributions and are not included in the Appendix.

There was however one important problem with Lady Fenn’s choice of “Mrs Lovechild” as a new pseudonym - it had already been used by the author of a children’s book. *Mrs. Lovechild's golden present*, was a 32 page chapbook, first published by Francis Newbery, around 1768, and which is often wrongly attributed to her.<sup>49</sup> In terms of the date of its publication, it could just have been written by the young Mrs Fenn, shortly after her marriage, but if so, she did not use this name again until after 1795. Furthermore, the pre-occupation with corporal punishment displayed in several places in this work was entirely contrary to Ellenor’s own stated educational philosophy.<sup>50</sup> Nevertheless, the fame of the second “Mrs Lovechild” and the undoubted success

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<sup>47</sup> Welsh, *A bookseller of the last century*, p.218. Roscoe (J268A) suggests that the work may have been edited or re-written by Lady Fenn. However, he also notes that the title was advertised by Elizabeth Newbery in 1784, which was thirteen years before Lady Fenn had any association with her.

<sup>48</sup> *The Gentleman's Magazine*, 88 (1813), pt. ii 508. *The footstep to Mrs. Trimmer's Sacred history: for the instruction and amusement of little children*. (London: John Marshall, 1797).

<sup>49</sup> *Mrs. Lovechild's golden present, to all the little masters and misses, of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America*. (London: F. Newbery, [c1768-70?].) An edition was advertised by Francis Newbery in the *London Chronicle*, 9 December 1768 (Roscoe J121). The modern association of the term ‘love-child’ with illegitimacy appears to have been a nineteenth century rather than eighteenth century phenomenon. The earliest recorded use of the term in this context recorded in the *Oxford English Dictionary* was in Alethea Lewis’s novel, *The Nuns of the desert*, (1805).

<sup>50</sup> This is especially apparent in the section of this work entitled ‘The virtue of the Rod, or, History of a naughty boy’, but also features in one of the illustrations and the introductory rhyme.

of her publications in the first two decades of the nineteenth century encouraged the frequent republication of this work,<sup>51</sup> and its continued sale by Lady Fenn's publisher John Harris.<sup>52</sup>

Similarly, "Nurse Lovechild" had been widely used as the traditional name for the storyteller or protagonist in eighteenth century collections of nursery rhymes, such as *Tommy Thumb's song book*, or *Nancy-Cock's pretty song book for all little misses and masters*. The name certainly dates at least as far back as the mid 1740s, when it appears in works advertised by the publisher Mary Cooper, at a time when Ellenor was a baby.<sup>53</sup> It also continued to be used well into the nineteenth century when *Nurse Love-Child's Legacy* was a popular chap-book, printed by James Catnach, Therefore the Library of Congress attribution of works by "Nurse Lovechild" to Lady Fenn, and the subsequent acceptance of this in the catalogs of many research libraries is undoubtedly wrong.

Apart from these inherent difficulties with her choice of pseudonym, Lady Fenn's memory has been plagued by the misattribution of an inordinate number of works to her by publishers, booksellers, bibliographers, and librarians. This process started shortly after her death when John Marshall's successors, the firm of Baldwin Cradock and Joy started wrongly adding "(the late Lady Fenn)" after the pseudonym "M.P." on the title pages for new editions of at least three well known works by Dorothy Kilner (1755-1836).<sup>54</sup> They continued to perpetuate this mistake in many of their advertisements for at least a decade, whilst simultaneously listing Lady Fenn's genuine titles as by "Mrs Teachwell".<sup>55</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> This work was later published in Brentford: by Philip Norbury and in York by James Kendrew, both c. 1810-1820.

<sup>52</sup> See *Robin Goodfellow. A fairy tale*, published by both Newbery and Harris between 1775 and 1815 which specifically refers to *Mrs. Lovechild's golden preset* as, being on sale in their shop.

<sup>53</sup> One copy of *Tommy Thumb's pretty song book* in the British Library is attributed to the year [1744?]. *Nancy-Cock's pretty song book for all little misses and masters*, by Nurse Lovechild. (London: John Marshall and Co., [1781?]), and an edition of *Nancy-Cock's pretty song book for all little misses and masters* by Nurse Lovechild was advertised by Mary Cooper in the *Daily Advertiser* of 23 May 1744.

<sup>54</sup> The three works concerned are: *The first principles of religio*; *A concise account of the origin and design of Christianity*; and *Dialogues and letters on morality, economy and politeness for the improvement of young female minds*, each of which carried the author statement "by M.P. (the late Lady Fenn)" on their title pages. 'M.P.' was however the pseudonym used by Dorothy Kilner.

<sup>55</sup> See, for example, the advertisements in Louisa Weston, *The Cambrian excursion*, (London: Baldwin Cradock & Joy, 1826).

### *Nineteenth century “Mrs Lovechids” (c.1843-c.1855)*

Further bibliographical confusion has been caused by the existence of a number of other mid-nineteenth century “Mrs Lovechids”, one in Britain and two (or more) in North America, each of whom has been confused with Lady Fenn in library catalogs. The first of these was almost certainly the result of a publisher’s error. An 8-page edition of *The blackberry girl: a pretty story in verse for good children*, ‘by Mrs. Lovechild’, was published in Stanstead, (Quebec) by Walton & Gaylord, in 1834, “intended for Sabbath schools and families”. This popular poem was reprinted in the U.S.A. many times from the 1830s to the 1850s and is believed to have been written by Nancy Sproat (1766-1827) of Boston, who wrote under the pseudonym of “Goody Lovechild”.<sup>56</sup> Nevertheless, the only copy recorded on OCLC World Cat is attributed to Lady Fenn.

The publisher Rufus Merrill, of Concord, New Hampshire, produced a series of children’s books during the 1840s and 1850s by another “Mrs Lovechild”, including *The mother's assistant, or, infant school primer* (1843), *Peep at old Asia* (1847), *Talk about Indians*, (1849), *The girl's casket* (1849), and *The poetical alphabet* (1855). Some of these were certainly influenced by Lady Fenn’s works but are all written from an American perspective.<sup>57</sup> Similarly, in 1850, the Philadelphia publisher John Ball published three collections of short stories for children by perhaps another(?) “Mrs Lovechild”, *The clever boy: and other stories; for the young*, *The Christmas tree*, and *Henry Tripp; or, Shaking the crab-tree*, the last two of which were reprinted several times over the next decade. Once again these books could not conceivably have been written by Lady Ellenor Fenn, since one of the stories in *Henry Tripp* looks back to an epidemic that took place in 1812, and Christmas trees only became popular in the 1830s.<sup>58</sup>

*What aunty saw in Scotland*, by another “Mrs. Lovechild”, was published in London by J. Nisbet in 1854. The work describes a journey by steamboat, and refers to the heroine Grace Darling (1815–1842), and therefore could not have been written by Lady Fenn. In fact later editions of

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<sup>56</sup> See Alice Sproat Emery, “Nancy Sproat and her little books for good children” *New York Public Library Bulletin*. 55 (1951) pp. 367-385.

<sup>57</sup> For example, “We are happy to say, that girls in New England are not very liable to learn the filthy and unlady-like practice of smoking from their mothers” *The girl's casket*, p.17, or *Talk about Indians*, which, displays a detailed knowledge of indigenous American tribes that Lady Fenn could not conceivably have had living in East Dereham.

<sup>58</sup> For an example of how misattributions can mislead subsequent historians see Karen Sánchez-Eppler, “Raising Empires like Children: Race, Nation, and Religious Education”, *American Literary History*, 8, 3 (1996), 399-425, pp. 401-3.

this work carried a dedication signed by Mary Anne Tonna. Nevertheless, the work continues to be attributed to Lady Fenn by the British Library and in several other major library catalogs.

### ***Other Lovechilds and Teachwells (c. 1813-c. 1873)***

In addition to *Mrs Lovechild's golden present*, there were several chapbooks and other small publications in Britain and the USA around the turn of the nineteenth century with pseudonymous authors such as "Mr. Lovechild", or "Tommy Lovechild". Some of these may have been deliberately trying to exploit the success of Lady Fenn,<sup>59</sup> but "Timothy Lovechild" predates Lady Fenn's use of the "Lovechild" pseudonym and perhaps was following the tradition of *Mrs Lovechild's golden present*.<sup>60</sup> However, during the nineteenth century, there were a number of more deliberate imitators of Lady Fenn who adopted similar sounding pseudonyms. In some of these cases the identities of the authors concerned are known, but in other cases not so, and librarians and booksellers have had a tendency to associate them with Lady Fenn. For example, Nancy Sproat who wrote *Stories for children in familiar verse* and *Poetic tale for children* as "Goody Lovechild" c.1813 is well known and is rarely confused with Lady Fenn (other than the single occasion mentioned above).<sup>61</sup> On the other hand, the unknown writer of *Mental amusement: in original poems, adapted for youth* c.1820, and *Footsteps to fame, and a waggon load of gold* c. 1835, who wrote as "Louisa Lovechild", or the "Lucy Lovechild" who wrote *Little Stories for Little Readers* c. 1840 have frequently been attributed to Lady Fenn.<sup>62</sup>

On occasions one children's publisher would steal the title of one of his rivals' successful publications, thereby misleading unwary readers. John Marshall published *The infant's path strewn with flowers* using the same title as one of Lady Fenn's teaching schemes (published by Elizabeth Newbery and later John Harris). Similarly, during the 1830s an alphabet book, *The ladder to learning* by "Miss Lovechild", was published, and subsequently attributed to Lady

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<sup>59</sup> Mr. Lovechild, *The picture gift; or, a present from Papa*, (York: Wilson, Spence, & Mawman, 1798, (ESTC N11850), or *The golden plaything, or, The way to be wise and happy*, (Boston: Hosem Sprague, 1804)., Tommy Lovechild, *Pretty poems, songs, &c., in easy language, for the amusement of little boys & girls*. (Chelmsford: [1812?]).

<sup>60</sup> Timothy Lovechild, *The little beggar: or lost child restored*. [London?: c.1790]) and *The history of Harry Learnwell*, (Philadelphia? c.1794).

<sup>61</sup> Nancy Sproat, *Stories for children in familiar verse by Goody Lovechild*, (Boston: West and Richardson, 1813)., or *Poetic tales for children*, (New York: Samuel Wood, 1814

<sup>62</sup> *Mental amusement; in original poems: adapted for youth of both sexes; calculated to repress idleness, and excite industry*. By Louisa Lovechild. London: S.E. Howe, [1820?], and *Footsteps to fame, and a waggon load of gold. Embellished with coloured engravings*, London: O. Hodgson, [ca. 1835]. *Little Stories for Little Readers: to make them wise and good, ... by Lucy Lovechild*, London: Edward Lacey, [1840?],



Fenn,<sup>63</sup> which has sometimes been confused with the well-known work by Sarah Trimmer.<sup>64</sup> On occasions publishers could be quite blatant in their attempts to confuse the public into thinking they were purchasing Lady Fenn's works. *First lessons in English grammar with questions and exercises adapted to the capacities of young children*, published in Paris in 1836, in Truchy's French and English Library, had the simple name "Lovechild" on the title page. It was described as a "new edition, revised and enlarged", implying that it had some connection with the highly successful *Child's Grammar* and *Mother's Grammar*.

The city of Philadelphia appears to have been the home for a family of "Lovechilds" during the 1840s and 1850s. In addition to the "Mrs Lovechild" (author of *The Christmas tree*, and *Henry Tripp*) referred to above, there was also a "Lawrence Lovechild" who was also sometimes referred to as "Grandfather Lovechild". He wrote *Fred Fearnought*, published by R. F. Simpson, c.1840 as part of a series of twelve titles known as "Grandfather Lovechild's Pictorial Primers". The success of this series appears to have encouraged other Philadelphia publishers to introduce a succession of similar "Lovechild" monograph series of children's books by "Lawrence Lovechild" and others. These series include "Grandfather Lovechild's natural history" (J. & J.L. Gihon, 1846), "Grandfather Lovechild's nursery stories" (J. & J.L. Gihon, 1847, Grigg, Elliot & Co., 1847, George B. Zieber, 1847, Keller & Bright, and E.B. Mears 1847-1858), "Lovechild's Juvenile library" and "Lovechild's new juvenile library" (Theodore Bliss & Co., 1855-1873). The same publisher was also responsible for *Country sights, for little folks* (1855) by a second(?) "Lucy Lovechild".<sup>65</sup> Finally, *The book of nursery rhymes, tales and fables*, edited by "Lawrence Lovechild", was published by James. B. Smith & Co. in Philadelphia in 1858. During the same period the New York publisher McLoughlin Brothers issued "Mama Lovechild's" series, which continued into the 1870s and some of which were also published in London by Thomas Dean & Son.

Lady Fenn is also frequently be credited with the authorship of *Dame Teachwell's pretty book for children*, published in London by J. Davis, and the Religious Tract Society, which went through several editions during the 1830s.<sup>66</sup> This tiny reading primer, illustrated with woodcuts, was

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<sup>63</sup> For example, *The ladder to learning by: Miss Lovechild*. (London: J.L. Marks, 1835-1839) and several other editions in the UK and USA during the 1850s and 1860s.

<sup>64</sup> *The ladder to learning, ... being a collection of select fables, consisting of words of only one syllable. Intended as an easy introduction to the useful art of reading*. (London: E. Newbery, [c. 1790]).

<sup>65</sup> Lucy Lovechild, *Country sights, for little folks*. (Philadelphia: H.C. Peck & Theo. Bliss, 1855).

<sup>66</sup> *Dame Teachwell's pretty book for children* (London: C.E. Knight, for J. Davis, 1830), and (London: The Religious Tract Society, c. 1830).


clearly influenced by her work, but she had ceased writing as “Mrs Teachwell” by about 1790 and there is no evidence in the text or elsewhere suggesting any connection with her. It is difficult to prove a negative in this instance, but given the widespread misuse of the “Lovechild” pseudonym, it also seems unlikely. Likewise the attribution to Lady Fenn of a volume of cautionary stories, *Pretty Tales, containing five entertaining stories, for the amusement and instruction of little children, by Timothy Teachwell* (c.1820-25) may be discounted with confidence, partly through the date of publication, the lack of any specific evidence of her involvement, and particularly by the marked differences in tone and attitude towards dealing with naughty children in this work compared with her other works.<sup>67</sup>

### ***Solomon Lovechild (1839-c. 1860)***

Perhaps the most misleading false attribution to Lady Fenn is that of “Solomon Lovechild”. This does not appear in the LC Name Authority file,<sup>68</sup> but has nevertheless found its way into a large number of standard reference works. This name first appeared on two very successful children’s books published in London by Dean and Co. around 1839 each of which went through several editions in the 1840s and 50s: *Sketches of little girls*, and *Sketches of little boys*, (which were also sometimes combined into a single volume). There is not the slightest chance that either of these titles could have anything to do with Lady Fenn. *Sketches of little girls* was modelled on *Sketches of young ladies* by Edward Caswall (“Quiz”), which was published by Chapman and Hall, in 1837. It even refers to this work in the text.<sup>69</sup> Similarly, *Sketches of little boys* mentions the “Polytechnic Institution” in London, (which opened in August 1838) and later editions refer to the “Great Exhibition” of 1851.<sup>70</sup> A third title by “Solomon Lovechild”, *Little tales for the nursery*, published by Dean and Son circa 1848-1860, is also clearly a product of the Victorian age rather than the Regency.

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<sup>67</sup> *Pretty Tales, containing five entertaining stories, For the amusement and instruction of little children. By Timothy Teachwell*, (Chelmsford: I. Marsden, c.1820-25?). The stylistic differences are most apparent in the tale ‘Johnny Badboy’, who “delights in killing butterflies, but one day, grabbing a butterfly on a rose too forcefully, a thorn penetrates his skin. He leaves it to fester and eventually the finger has to be amputated. Yet he still does not learn his lesson, and remains a wicked boy.” See <http://www.cts.dmu.ac.uk/AnaServer?hockliffe+66190+hoccvview.anv>

<sup>68</sup> *Library of Congress Authorities*, <http://authorities.loc.gov/>, LC Control Number: nr 92007633 accessed  2 Nov 2007]. which suggests an alternative identity for Solomon Lovechild – that of Julia Corner (1798-1875). This attribution is supported by the listing of “Corners Sketches of Girls and Boys [sic]” in *the Metropolitan Magazine*, 25 (1839), p.53, but it is not mentioned in Julia Corner’s entry in the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*.

<sup>69</sup> Solomon Lovechild, *Sketches of little girls* 4<sup>th</sup> edition (London: Thomas Dean & Co. ([ca. 1845])), p.7. Electronic version available at <http://www.archive.org/details/sketcheslittlegi00loveiala>

<sup>70</sup> Solomon Lovechild, *Sketches of little boys*: (London: Thomas Dean & Co., c.1851), pp. 18, 20. Electronic version available at <http://www.archive.org/details/sketchesoflittle00loveiala>

## **Conclusions**

The case of Lady Ellenor Fenn, and the large number of incorrect attributions associated with her, highlights some of the difficulties encountered in the bibliographical study of early children's books. Many of the titles discussed are small, undated, without edition statements, and may have survived only in a limited number of copies which are widely dispersed. Others have not survived at all and are known only from advertisements. The frequent use of anonymous publication, particularly by female authors, the use of commonplace pseudonyms, which were not subject to any copyright, and the cavalier attitude adopted by some publishers to their authors and readers are further complicating factors.

There is a natural tendency by librarians and booksellers to wish to attribute anonymous or pseudonymous works in their collections to known individuals rather than catalog them under the pseudonym or title. To do this they will inevitably rely on cataloguing decisions by their colleagues and predecessors or else make use of the standard works of reference. Lady Fenn's example demonstrates that this needs to be done with particular care to avoid creating or perpetuating bibliographical errors.

January 2008

## Appendix - A checklist of books and teaching schemes believed to have been written or compiled by Lady Fenn

The books, games and teaching schemes listed below are those known or believed to have been written or compiled by Lady Fenn. In each case the earliest known edition is listed followed by brief notes of later editions. The works are presented in the order in which the compiler believes them to have been published, (although this is sometimes educated guesswork). The notes on edition sizes and dates of publication for the early titles are taken from a memorandum inserted inside Sir John Fenn's autobiography in the Norfolk Record Office. Other details are from the books themselves or advertisements.

References are made to the following bibliographies: Darton – Lawrence Darton, *The Dartons an annotated checklist*;

ESTC – *English short-title catalogue*;

Moon – Marjorie Moon, *John Harris's books for youth 1801-1843*;

NSTC – *Nineteenth century short-title catalogue*;

Roscoe, - Sydney Roscoe, *John Newbery and his successors, 1740-1814*.

### Mrs Teachwell

1. *School occurrences: supposed to have arisen among a set of young ladies, under the tuition of Mrs. Teachwell*, London: printed and sold by John Marshall and Co., [1783]. 12mo. Price 1s. Written November 1782 and published February 1783 (John Fenn). Advertised *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser* 18 July 1783. One thousand copies printed, Lady Fenn received 60 copies. Other editions: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition after 1784, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition circa 1795-8 (ESTC N21606).
2. *Mr. Meanwell's rules for making a boy pleasing to all who know him*, Rochester: F. Fisher, 1783. 12<sup>o</sup>(?) Price 4d. Written 1780, first published in Rochester February 1783 (John Fenn, described it as a "lilliputian quarto"). Mrs Fenn had about 60 copies. (Described as *Master Meanwell's Rules* in the "Address to Mothers" at the end of *Fables* by Mrs Teachwell. No copies now known. Other editions: Possibly a 2<sup>nd</sup> edition by John Marshall since it was advertised in his *A Complete Catalogue of Mrs. Teachwell's Books*.
3. *Juvenile correspondence; or, letters, suited to children, from four to above ten years of age*, London: printed and sold by John Marshall and Co, [1783]). 8<sup>o</sup>. ESTC T62605. Price 1s 6d. Written 1779-1782, published April 1783. Advertised *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser* 12 May 1783. Mrs Fenn received 70 copies plus a bound copy of Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*. Other editions: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition before 1786 (ESTC T80859); U.S. edition New-Haven: Printed by Abel Morse, 1791 (ESTC W201). Facsimile reprint of 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Kessinger Publishing, [2007].
4. *Fables in monosyllables by Mrs. Teachwell*, London: printed and sold by John Marshall & Co., [1783?]. and *Morals to a set of fables by Mrs. Teachwell*. London: printed and sold by John Marshall & Co., [1783?]. 12<sup>o</sup>. ESTC N9627. Price 2s. Published July 1783 as 2 volumes in 1, but the individual components are also sometimes found to have been bound and sold separately. Written 1779 for her nephew William Frere. Advertised *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser* 10 July 1783. Mrs Fenn received 36 copies plus other Marshall publications. Other editions: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (Marshall) after 1783 (ESTC 31618); 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Marshall) 1792 (ESTC 73095); Philadelphia: Printed for Thomas Dobson, 1798 (ESTC W12309). Photographic reprint Wakefield/New York: Johnson Reprint Corporation/ S.R. Publishers, 1970).
5. *Fables, by Mrs. Teachwell: in which the morals are drawn incidentally in various ways*, London: Printed and sold by John Marshall & Co., 1783. 12<sup>o</sup>. ESTC N32467. Price 1s 6d. Written in 1775 for her nephew George Frere. Published July 1783 (John Fenn). Advertised *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser* 17 April 1784. Mrs Fenn received 35 copies plus other Marshall publications. Other editions: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (Marshall) c. 1790, ESTC T73094; Hallowell [Maine] printed by N. Cheever, for Ezekiel Goodale, 1809.

6. *Cobwebs to catch flies: or, dialogues in short sentences*, London: printed and sold by John Marshall and Co., [1783/4], 2v. 12°. ESTC T73091.  
Price 1s each vol. Advertised *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser* 17 April 1784.  
Other editions: Reprinted innumerable times by J. Marshall 1784-1815 (ESTC N59934-5, N26601-3, N31618, N44101, T16726, T73095, and several other editions not recorded). Also Dublin: John Rice, 1794, (ESTC 44101); Philadelphia: Johnson & Warner c. 1813 – 1814; London - Baldwin, Cradock, & Joy, 1815, 1817, 1822, 1825 and Baldwin & Cradock, 1829, 1833, 1837, 1841; Philadelphia: Robert Desilver, 1825; Baltimore: E. J. Coale, 1825; New York: Mahlon Day, 1832, 1834, 1837, and Mahlon Day, and Baker, Crane & Co. 1842; London - Darton & Co. 1842, 1852, 1858; London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, c. 1844, c.1849; New York: C.S. Francis & Co., and Boston: J.S. Francis & Co., 1851; London: Lockwood & Co. 1866, c.1871 and Crosby Lockwood & Co. 1885; London: Frederick Warne and Co. and New York Scribner, Welford & Co. 1868, 1876, 1894; London: George Routledge and sons, 1871; A French language edition, *Toiles d'araignees pour attraper les mouches*, was published London: T. Baylis, T. Hurst, and E. Newbery, 1799 (Roscoe J129).
7. *School dialogues, for boys. Being an attempt to convey instruction insensibly to their tender minds, and instill the love of virtue. By a lady*. London: printed and sold by John Marshall and Co., [1783/4], 2v. 12°. ESTC T63967. Price 4s. Written 1782, intended to have been her first publication but delayed. Dedication dated November 1783. Advertised *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser* 17 April 1784.
8. *Rational sports. In dialogues passing among the children of a family. Designed as a hint to mothers how they may inform the minds of their little people* London: printed and sold by John Marshall and Co., [1784] 12°. ESTC T131039.  
Price 1s. Advertised *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser* 24 December 1784.  
Other editions: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, c.1785 (ESTC T131043); 3<sup>rd</sup> edition c.1787 (ESTC T131044); 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Marshall, c. 1794 (ESTC T168282); 4<sup>th</sup> edition Dublin: Jackson, 1794 (ESTC T6286); Boston: Cummings and Hilliard, 1814; New-Haven: John Babcock & Son . Charleston: S. & W.R. Babcock. and Philadelphia: M'Carty & Davis, 1820; London: Baldwin, Cradock, & Joy, 1823. Facsimile reprint of 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Kessinger Publishing, [2007].
9. *The female guardian. Designed to correct some of the foibles incident to girls, and supply them with innocent amusement for their hours of leisure. By a lady*. London: printed and sold by John Marshall and Co., [1784], 12°. ESTC N7969. Price 1s 6d. Dedication dated September 1784. *Morning Herald and Daily Advertiser* 24 December 1784.  
Other editions: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (Marshall) 1787. ESTC T163518. Facsimile reprint of 1<sup>st</sup> edition, Kessinger Publishing, [2007].
10. *The art of teaching in sport, designed as a prelude to a Set of Toys, for enabling ladies to instill the rudiments of spelling, reading, grammar, and arithmetic, under the idea of amusement*, London, John Marshall & Co., 1785, at No. 4, Aldermay Church Yard, Bow-Lane, 12°. ESTC T80691  
Price 9d. A handbook to accompany Fenn's "A set of toys".  
Other editions: c.1796 (ESTC T80690); and c.1799., (ESTC N22911).
11. *The rational dame; or, hints towards supplying prattle for children*. London: printed and sold by John Marshall and Co., [1786?], 12°. ESTC T164781.  
Price 1s 6d. Published late 1786. Advertised *World and Fashionable Advertiser* 3 January 1787.  
Other editions: c. 1788 (ESTC T46303); 2nd edition c.1790 (ESTC v); 3<sup>rd</sup> edition c.1793 (ESTC T168244); 4<sup>th</sup> edition c. 1795 (ESTC T122971); 5<sup>th</sup> edition c. 1799 (ESTC N23617); 6<sup>th</sup> edition 1806; [7<sup>th</sup> edition] 1812; 9<sup>th</sup> edition (Baldwin Cradock & Joy) 1820, New edition 1825. Also 4<sup>th</sup> edition Dublin: printed by N. Kelly for T. Jackson, 1795 (ESTC T168223); New-York: Samuel Wood & Sons, 1821. The title was advertised as for sale by E. Newbery in *Parsing lessons for older pupils*, 1798, but may have been one of the Marshall editions (Roscoe J124.)
12. *A spelling book, designed to render the acquisition of the rudiments of our native language easy and pleasant. . . By Mrs. Teachwell*. London: printed and sold by J. Marshall and Co., at No. 4, Aldermay Church Yard, in Bow-Lane, [1787], 12°. ESTC T73115.  
Price 1s. Different from Mrs Lovechild's, *A spelling book*. Advertised *World and Fashionable Advertiser* 3 January 1787.

13. *Lilliputian Spectacle de la nature: or, nature delineated, in conversations and letters passing between the children of a family*, London: printed and sold by John Marshall and Co. at No. 4, Aldermary Church Yard, in Bow-Lane, [1787], 3 vols. 18°. ESTC T78892.  
Price 2s 6d. Modelled on the *Spectacle de la nature*, by Noël A. Pluche. Advertised *World* (1787) 12 January 1788.
14. *Select passages from various authors. Designed to form the minds and manners of young persons; and at the same time to afford an agreeable miscellany for those of riper years*, London: W. Richardson, 1787, 12°. ESTC T145846. Price 3s 6d. Published anonymously by Richardson, but later advertised by Marshall as "by Mrs Teachwell". Different from *Select passages ...* by Mrs Lovechild published by Harris, and Darton and Harvey 1805.
15. *The juvenile tatler. By a society of young ladies under the tuition of Mrs. Teachwell*. London: printed and sold by J. Marshall and Co., 1789, 12°. ESTC T78334.  
Price 1s. Advertised *Morning Star* 6 June 1789.  
Other editions: Reprinted 1790 (ESTC T130548).
16. *The fairy spectator; or, the invisible monitor, by Mrs. Teachwell and her family*. London: Printed and sold by J. Marshall and Co., 1789. 12°. ESTC T78335.  
Price 1s 6d. Advertised *St James's Chronicle or the British Evening Post* 20 August 1789  
Other editions: 1789 (ESTC T133461); 1790 (ESTC N8202); c.1798, c.1800. Facsimile reprint of 1<sup>st</sup> edition, Kessinger Publishing, [2007].
17. *A Short history of quadrupeds. Extracted from authors of credit, designed as an introduction to the study of that branch of natural history, and as a pocket companion to those who visit the Leverian Museum*, London: Printed and sold by John Marshall, [c. 1792]. 2v. 12°. ESTC N36753.  
Price 5s. Advertised *World* 1787 26 October 1792. Included in *A complete catalogue of Mrs Teachwell's books* and also later advertised by Elizabeth Newbery (Roscoe J126).
18. *A complete catalogue of Mrs. Teachwell's books*, [London, c. 1792] 1/8°. ESTC T131265.

### Anonymous works

19. *The child's grammar, designed to enable ladies who may not have attended to the subject themselves to instruct their children*. London printed by and for John Marshall, c.1791 12°. Details of first edition not known. Price 6d. Part of Marshall's "Juvenile Library" The early editions are anonymous, but was later advertised in "Mrs Lovechild's Series of Grammatical Knowledge", Other editions: Marshall had produced at least five editions before 1800, (ESTC N29728, T165242, and another not recorded); Advertised as published by E. Newbery in *Parsing lessons for elder pupils*, 1798 and *Newbery's catalogue of instructive and amusing publications for young minds*, 1800, but no copies known (Roscoe J115); Dublin: printed by Robert Napper, for B. Dugdale, 1799. (ESTC T165244); "Printed for the author and sold by J. Harris", 1803 (Moon 259/1) and 1806, "Printed for J. Harris" 1807 (Moon 259/2); 25<sup>th</sup> edition 1819 (Moon 259/3); 26<sup>th</sup> edition 1820 (Moon 259/4); 31<sup>st</sup> edition 1824 (Moon 259/5); 33<sup>rd</sup> edition 1827 (Moon 259/6); 34<sup>th</sup> edition 1830 (Moon 259/7); 36<sup>th</sup> edition 1833 (Moon 259/8); 38<sup>th</sup> edition 1839 (Moon 259/9) 40<sup>th</sup> edition, 1842. (Moon 259/10) 41<sup>st</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> editions not seen. 43<sup>rd</sup> edition c1850- 50<sup>th</sup> edition c.1870 Grant and Griffith.
20. *The mother's grammar. Being a continuation of the child's grammar. With lessons for parsing. And a few already done as examples*, London: printed and sold by John Marshall, c. 1791. 12°. ESTC N26281.  
Price 6d. The early editions are anonymous, but the work was later advertised as by 'Mrs Lovechild'. Other editions: Reprinted by Marshall three times by 1798 (ESTC T227160, T134372, and N26282); Advertised as published by E. Newbery in *Parsing lessons for elder pupils*, 1798 and *Newbery's catalogue of instructive and amusing publications for young minds*, 1800, but no copies known (Roscoe J120); "Printed for the author and sold by J. Harris", 1804 (Moon 267/1); and "Printed for J. Harris" 1807 (Moon 267/2); 11<sup>th</sup> edition 1813 (Moon 267/3); 12<sup>th</sup> edition 1814 (Moon 267/4); 17<sup>th</sup> edition 1828 (Moon 267/5); 18<sup>th</sup> edition 1830 (Moon 267/6); 19<sup>th</sup> edition 1833 (Moon 267/7); 20<sup>th</sup> ed. 1838 (Moon 267/8); NSTC F434, L2449, 2L23122.
21. *Six lessons for youth, selected chiefly from the Christian Scholar*, East Dereham: William Barker, 1795. 8vo.

The attribution is based on the place of publication and Lady Fenn's known association with the East Dereham Sunday School.

22. *Some hints to young women, engaged in rearing infants, or educating children, either in private families, or schools*, London: printed for E. Newbery, 1799. 12°. ESTC N23444. Roscoe A154.  
Price 2s.

### **Mrs Lovechild**

23. *The village matron, or, Anecdotes of Mrs. Lovechild*, Norwich: Printed by R. Bacon, [c.1795]. 12°. ESTC N48765.  
Price 1s.  
Other editions: The title was possibly reprinted since it was advertised by Elizabeth Newbery in Sarah Trimmer's *Silver thimble*, 1799 (Roscoe J130) and by John Harris, c.1805?
24. *A miscellany in prose and verse for young persons on a Sunday*, [Norwich?]: Sold by [Richard] Bacon Norwich; and by Mrs. Newbery, London, [1796?] ]. 12°. ESTC T117243  
Price 1s. Anonymous, but the running headline states "Mrs Lovechild's Miscellanies". See also 23. A *miscellany in prose and verse, for young persons: designed particularly for the amusement of Sunday scholars*, which is a different work. (Advertised by Elizabeth Newbery as *The Sunday Miscellany, in Prose and Verse, for young Persons* in "A series of books for teaching", c.1798 (Roscoe J128).  
Other editions: Reprinted J. Harris 1807 (Moon 265).
25. *A miscellany in prose and verse, for young persons: designed particularly for the amusement of Sunday scholars*. London: Printed and sold by John Marshall, at No. 4, Aldermay Church-Yard, in Bow-Lane, and No. 17, Queen-Street, Cheapside, [c.1795]. 12°. ESTC T78512,  
Price 1s. Anonymous, but the running headline states "Mrs Lovechild's Miscellanies". See also *A miscellany in prose and verse, for young persons, on a Sunday, [Norwich?]: Sold by [Richard] Bacon Norwich; and by Mrs. Newbery, London, [1796?]*. 12°. which is a different work.
26. *A short history of insects, (extracted from works of credit) designed as an introduction to the study of that branch of natural history, and as a pocket companion to those who visit the Leverian Museum*, Norwich: Printed and sold by Stevenson and Matchett, sold also by Bell; White; Scatcherd; Champante and Whitrow, London, [1796?] 12°. ESTC T63986.  
Price 3s 6d.  
No later editions known, but the work was advertised by E. Newbery c. 1798 (Roscoe J125), and J. Harris, c.1805, as written by Mrs Lovechild.
27. *The infant's friend, part I. Spelling book. By Mrs. Lovechild*, Printed for E. Newbery, at the Corner, of St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1797, 12°. ESTC T114108, Roscoe J117.  
Price 8d. Advertised *Times* 27 December 1797  
Other editions: Dublin: printed for T. Jackson, 1800 (ESTC T205003). J. Harris c.1806 (Moon 263). NSTC 2F3901.
28. *The infant's friend. Part II. Reading lessons. By Mrs Lovechild*, London: printed for E. Newbery, at the Corner, of St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1797. 12°. ESTC T62603. Roscoe J118.  
Price 1s. Advertised *Morning chronicle* 23 January 1798  
Other editions: Reprinted J. Harris 1806. Moon 263.
29. *Parsing lessons for children: resolved into their elements, for the assistance of parents and teachers*, London: printed for E. Newbery [c.1798?]. 12°.  
Not seen. Earliest surviving edition is 3rd by John Harris, 1803. (Moon 268/3).  
Other editions: London, J. Harris, ca. 1815, 8th edition "carefully revised", 1833 (Moon 268/8); New edition London 1849 18mo. Listed in Alibone S.A. *A critical disctionary of English literature and British and American authors* . London 1858.
30. *Parsing lessons for elder pupils: resolved into their elements for the assistance of parents and teachers*, London: printed for E. Newbery, the Corner of St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1798. 12°. ESTC T114126. Roscoe J122.

Price 1s 3d. Advertised *Sun* 19 December 1798.

Other editions: 2nd edition. London, for John Harris, 1803. (Moon 269). NSTC L2450.

31. *Parsing lessons for young children: resolved into their elements, for the assistance of parents and teachers*. London: printed for E. Newbery, the Corner of St. Paul's Church-Yard, 1798. 12°. ESTC T113069. Roscoe J123.  
Price 9d.  
Reprinted Harris 1805 (Moon 270); and 1815.
32. *A series of books for teaching, by Mrs. Lovechild: sold by E. Newbery, corner of St. Paul's church-yard, London*, [London, s.n., 1798?] 1/8°. ESTC T131264
33. *The friend of mothers: designed to assist them in their attempts to instil the rudiments of language and arithmetic*, London: Printed for E. Newbery . 1799. 12°. ESTC N3316.  
Advertised *Oracle and Daily Advertiser* 23 December 1799. Although the title page has no reference to "Mrs Lovechild", the name is printed on the paper covers. Roscoe J116.
34. *The Infant's friend. Part III., Reading Lessons*, London: printed for E. Newbery, 1799. 12°. Roscoe J119.  
Not seen, advertised in: Trimmer's *Silver thimble*, 1799.
35. *The mother's book; a set of cuts for children, with a mother's remarks. By Mrs. Lovechild*, London: Darton and Harvey, 1799. 3 vols. 12°.  
A combination of the next two items 5s. Listed in Jeremias David Reuss, *Das gelehrte England, oder Lexikon der jetzlebenden Schriftsteller* (Berlin 1804) and reviewed in the *Monthly Review*, 1800, p.205.
36. *The mother's remarks on a set of cuts for children*. London: Printed for Darton and Harvey, by S. Couchman, 1799. 2 v. 12°. ESTC N26333. A companion to *Mrs Lovechild's nook of three hundred and thirty six cuts for children*. Other editions: Reprinted 1802. Darton G330.
37. *Mrs. Lovechild's book of three hundred and thirty-six cuts for children*, London: sold by Darton and Harvey, 1800, 12°. Other editions: 1801, 1803, 1805, 1810, 1813. Darton G328. NSTC L2448.
38. *Hints to young women who are engaged in education*, London: printed for John Harris, [c.1802]. 12°. Not seen, advertised in: *The Mother's Grammar*, 1804.
39. *A short description of two sets of alphabetical cuts of birds. By the author of The rational dame. Part 1*. London: Printed and sold by Darton and Harvey, 1803. 12°. Reprinted 1805. Darton G331.
40. *A short history of reptiles, (extracted from works of credit) designed as an introduction to the study of that branch of natural history and as a pocket companion to those who visit museums*. Printed and sold by Darton and Harvey 1803. 12°. Reprinted 1805. Darton G332/3.
41. *A Short history of bees: in two parts. I. By a Lady*. (London: Printed for E. Newbery, ... Vernor and Hood, ... J. Cundee, 1800, 12°. Advertised as 'Lady Fenn's History of Bees printed for Vernor and Hood sold by E. Newbery' *Evening Mail* 8 December 1800 and *London Chronicle or Universal Evening Post* 23 December 1800. Other editions: J. Harris and Darton & Harvey c. 1804 6. (Moon 271).
42. *A spelling book, with easy reading lessons, beginning with words of three letters and proceeding gradually to those of as many syllables*, London: printed for J. Harris, 1805. 12°. Moon 273.  
The contents are different from "Mrs. Teachwell's", *A spelling book*, 1787.



43. *The family miscellany, in prose and verse; designed to supply lessons for children of various ages.* London: Printed for John Harris; Darton and Harvey, By W. Darton and J. & J. Harvey, 1805. 12°. (Moon 260/1). NSTC L2446.  
Price 2s. Also advertised by Harris 1805.  
Other editions: reprinted 1809 (Moon 260/2). A Sequel to the " Infant's Friend."
44. *A systematical arrangement of the animal kingdom; designed to supply a pocket volume for those who visit museums, and to enable ladies to introduce their children to the study of that branch of natural history.* Printed and sold by Darton and Harvey 1806. 12°. Price 4s. Moon 275, Darton G335.
45. *Sunday improvements for children,* London: J. Harris, c. 1807. Format not known. Moon 274.  
No copies known, advertised by Harris in *A miscellany in prose and verse, for young persons* 1807,
46. *Short sermons for children,* London: J. Harris c.1808. format not known.  
No copies known. Advertised by Harris 1808-16 (Moon 272). Also mentioned in Lady Fenn's obituary in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 83, 2 (1813), 508, and S.A. Alibone *A critical dictionary of English literature and British and American authors* ... 3 vols. London 1858-70.
47. *The Teacher's Assistant, in the art of teaching grammar in sport.* London, J. Harris, 1809, 12°.   
Apparently not advertised. This 32 page booklet was perhaps a component part of one of the teaching schemes?

### Posthumous publications

48. *The little vocabulary, intended as an introduction to any of the larger spelling-books, and particularly designed to assist mothers in the instruction of their young children.* By Mrs. Lovechild, London William Darton, 1814. 12°.   
Darton H585. Advertised 1815.  
Other editions: A 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 1822. (William Darton). Price sixpence. Another edition was advertised in *Peter Parley's Annual*, 1853.
49. *Easy reading: adapted to the capacities of children from five to seven years old: designed to advance them by natural and easy gradations to the perusal of larger works: being a companion to, and intended to follow the "Little vocabulary": divided into a number of short lessons, and embellished with many wood-cuts.* London: printed by and for W. Darton, 1814. 12°.   
Darton H584. NSTC L2445. Price one shilling. Price 1s.
50. *Mrs. Lovechild's book of two hundred and sixteen cuts. Designed by the Late Lady Fenn, to teach children the names of things.* London: Printed for Harvey and Darton, 1824. 12°.   
Darton G329. Later re-issued as *The good child's picture book*, 1831-3 (Darton G393).
51. *The mother's first book for little children: accompanied with engravings; by means of which conversation may be addressed, and instruction extended to the infant mind.* By Mrs. Lovechild. William Darton; sold also by Harvey and Darton, and John Harris, [c. 1825-30]. 12°.   
Darton H586.
52. *Baby's Busy hours: morning lessons to which are added six monosyllable fables by the late Lady Fenn,* London: printed and sold by E. Marshall, 149 Fleet Street, from Aldermay Churchyard, [c.1825-30]. 8°
53. *Infantine knowledge a spelling book on a popular plan,* London: J. Harris, [1828], new edition. 12°. Moon 264/1.  
Date of first edition not known NSTC 2L23120.  
Other editions: 2nd ed" c. 1828 (Moon 264/2); 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 1833 (Moon 264/3); 4<sup>th</sup> edition 1835 (Moon 264/4); 6th edition 1837 (Moon 264/6);. 7<sup>th</sup> edition c.1848, 9<sup>th</sup> edition c. 1850. Also New York: Charles S. Francis & Co., and Boston, Joseph H. Francis, 1850.

## Teaching schemes

1. *A set of toys*, [Mrs Teachwell], London: J. Marshall, c.1785.  
A wooden box containing: 1. The spelling box, 2. The Grammar Box, 3. The Figure Box. Also the explanatory handbook *The Art of Teaching in Sport*. Presumably reprinted 1796, 1799
2. *The infant's delight*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: E Newbery, c.1797.  
Price 1s 6d. a Specimen of Cuts in a Superior Stile for Children; with a Book containing their Names, as easy reading Lessons; and an Address to Mothers: in an engraved case. Moon 262, Roscoe 116A
3. *The infant's path strewed with flowers*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: E Newbery, c.1797.  
Roscoe J119A.  
A box, containing above 200 engravings of natural objects, copied from the publications of our best naturalists; and a systematical arrangement of the Birds, Beasts, and Insects - 5s.
4. *Grammatical amusements in a box*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: E Newbery, c. 1798  
Listed in Lady Fenn's obituary in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 83, 2 (1813), 508.
5. *The figure scheme, or, figures rendered pleasant to children*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: E. Newbery, c. 1799.  
"The Figure Scheme; or, Figures rendered Pleasant to Children: in a bag, 3s. - in a box, with cuts as douceurs, 6s." Mentioned in *The Friend of Mothers*, 1799 advertised by Harris c.1804 (Moon 261).
6. *Douceurs, with a variety of print*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: J. Harris, c.1805. Moon 1018.  
Price 5s "Douceurs, in a Box; sold also under the appellation of Three hundred and thirty-six cuts by Mrs Lovechild, with the Mother's Remarks, 3 vols."
7. *The pronouncing scheme*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: J. Harris, c1805. Moon 1020.  
Price 6s. "In a neat box".
8. *A secret worth knowing*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: J. Harris, c.1805. Moon 1021.  
Price 1s. "A pack of curious cards" "Instructive lessons conveyed to the mind of youth by means of an easy trick".
9. *Sportive exercises in grammar*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: J. Harris, c.1805. Moon 1023.
10. *A spelling box*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: J. Harris, c.1806. Moon 1022.
11. *Friendly whispers for youth of both sexes*, [Mrs Lovechild], London: J. Harris, c.1809. Moon 1019.  
Price 1s. "A pack of cards on a similar plan [to A secret worth knowing]".